

A Labour Government would give leaseholders security from rip-off ground rents – Healey

John Healey MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Housing, commenting on new government statistics showing that there are four million leasehold dwellings in England, said:

"These new figures confirm for the first time the scale of leasehold ownership in England.

"Home-owners who own their home as leaseholders are currently unprotected from rip-off rises in 'ground rents' from developers or management companies.

"At its worst this is little better than legalised extortion and too many leaseholders are having to pay hefty bills as a result.

Under a Labour Government this sharp practice would end.

"This is unfinished business for Labour – we gave leaseholders more protection in government, but the continuing problem now means we must do more.

"A Labour Government would give leaseholders security from rip-off ground rents and end the routine use of leasehold ownership in new housing developments."